

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of: Charles A. Miller

Application No.: Unknown

Filing Date: December 29, 2003

For: INTEGRATED CIRCUIT TETER WITH
HIGH BANDWIDTH PROBE ASSEMBLY

Examiner: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop: Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to the calculation of fees and examination of this application, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the following amendment.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-20.

REMARKS

Please add the following new claims:

21. An integrated circuit having a surface including at least one node through which the integrated circuit communicates via a signal, the integrated circuit tested by a method comprising the steps of:

- a. contacting the at least one node with a probe;
- b. linking a terminal of an integrated circuit tester to the probe through a conductive path, such that the at least one node, the probe, the conductive path and the terminal form a signal path for conveying the signal between the integrated circuit and the integrated circuit tester,

wherein the at least one node, the probe, the terminal and the conductive path have impedances, and

wherein impedances of the at least one node, the probe, the terminal and the conductive path are sized relative to impedances of others of the node, the probe, the terminal and the conductive path to substantially optimize a frequency response characteristic of the signal path.

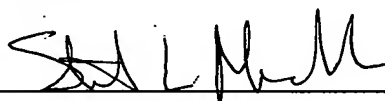
22. The integrated circuit of claim 1, wherein the method further comprises the impedances including inductances in series with the signal path and capacitances shunting the signal path.

The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this transmittal and associated documents, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0285 (Order No. P82C1C1-US). A duplicate copy of this transmittal is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 29, 2003

By: _____



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